

Revised and Adopted, 1916.

A COURSE OF STUDY FOR NEW MISSIONARIES.

General Remarks.

1. *Aim.* The aim of the course of Language Study is to lay such a foundation in the language as to enable the student to master thoroughly the material presented, which involves the ability

(1) To hear understandingly.

(2) To pronounce correctly.

(3) To speak idiomatically and naturally.

(4) To read simple connected discourse.

(5) To become acquainted with the analysis and writing of a limited number of characters.

2. *Method.* As far as possible the same method should be used in the separate stations as is used in the Nanking Language School, namely the direct method, placing emphasis in the following order on hearing, speaking, reading, and writing.

3. *Teachers.* Whenever possible teachers should be sent to the Nanking Language School for special Normal training. This is of special importance in preparing teachers for the second year's work of students who have taken their first year in Nanking. It will tend to secure continuity of method and to avoid the evident draw-back of going from a splendidly taught school to a station where the young missionary is in danger of receiving poor teaching and very little supervision.

4. *Examining Committees.* At the annual meeting of the Mission an examining committee composed of two members and an alternate is appointed for each station. The committee is responsible for the selection of suitable teachers and for the supervision of their work. One of the examiners, or some one appointed by them, should be put in direct supervision of the student and should meet with him at least once a week to give help and instruction. Monthly tests should be given also during the first year. Examinations conducted by the examining committee are given semi-annually during the first and second years and at the close of the third year. Examining committees are required to present a report at each Mission Meeting on their supervision and examination work, stating what the student has accomplished. Until each new missionary has finished the required work, or has been excused from any part of it, the Examination Committee shall regularly report as to his progress.

5. *Language Study and Voting.* In order to further the objects of this course, missionaries are not entitled to vote in the station until they have passed the first year's examination, and in the Mission until they have passed the second year's examination, the examination in each case to be sustained by the Mission, or its Executive Committee, before the right to vote is attained. In order to make it possible to

complete the course suitably the stations should arrange their work so that missionaries in their first two years may have their full time for language study and in their third year half time for study. The third year's course is not required of married women and after they have been on the field six years the Executive Committee may, by vote, give to any married woman, who has passed the first year's examination only, the right to vote in the Mission.

6. *Substitutes are allowed as follows:—*

(a) Ningpo is permitted to use Romanized in the vernacular studies and Christian books.

(b) Shanghai is permitted to substitute for the first two years' course the first two years of the course prepared by the Committee of the Shanghai Missionary Association.

(c) Hangchow is permitted to substitute sections of Morgan's "Chinese Speaker" for Baller, Lessons 21-30, and for the 20 lessons of Mateer.

(d) When a station permits or directs a new missionary to attend the Nanking Language School, the ground covered and examinations sustained there shall be accepted in place of the first six months' course of the Mission and examination thereon; it being understood that it will ordinarily be well for the student to work over the Mission's course from the beginning in order to take up the course for the second half of the first year more readily.

(e) Where desired by the student, the Nanking correspondence course for the second year of study may be substituted for such a portion of the Mission's second or third year's course as may be decided by the station's examining committee, as far as it is possible to dove-tail the two courses into each other. The resultant course should not be disproportionate in its emphasis on the various subjects of study.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Section I. FIRST YEAR, FIRST HALF.

1. Vernacular Lessons.

Bryan's Analytical Primer, Book I, or Baller's Primer, Lessons 1-10.

2. Christian Books.

Selected Gospel Stories. Be able to tell the stories and to read them.

(1) An Unexpected Guest.

The Friend at Midnight. Luke 11:5-10.

(2) Bread-making.

The Leaven and the Meal. Matt. 13:33.

or *House-building.*

Counting the Cost. Luke 14:28-30.

(3) Sweeping.

The Lost Piece of Silver. Luke 15:8-10.

or *Gardening.*

The Parable of the Sower. Mark 4:1-9.

(4) *A Wedding.*

The Wedding in Cana of Galilee. John 2:1-11.

(5) *A Funeral.*

Raising the Widow's Son at Nain. Luke 7:11-15.

Let the teacher first work out the story as a dialogue, acting every sentence until he makes the student understand. The stories have been selected with a view to represent probable early experiences of the missionary, and in telling the story the teacher should take care to use everyday expressions.

3. *Character Study and Writing.*

Learn to recognize all the characters in Bryan's Primer or in the first ten lessons in Baller, and learn to analyse and write 200 of them. (Wieger's "Chinese Characters" suggested as an aid in analysis, and also Baller's "The A B C of Chinese Writing," as an aid in writing. The characters for writing may be taken from the latter book, if preferred.)

4. *Memorizing.*

Learn the Lord's prayer and twenty household expressions.

5. *Conversation and Pronunciation.*

(1) Spend some time each day in conversation with your teacher, trying to learn the lessons from him first before reading them.

(2) Give five minutes or more each day to drill on tones. A double tone table such as is recommended by Mr. Pettus will be found helpful. Learn to distinguish any tone spoken singly by the teacher.

(3) Spend at least twenty minutes each day in reading after the teacher, imitating him clause by clause, with a view to learning the correct rhythmical emphasis. In this work it will be well to use the same passage more than once.

(4) Hear at least one address a week given by a Chinese and note unfamiliar words and phrases.

(5) Get your pronunciation direct from a Chinese teacher (not from a foreigner) without the use at first of any system of Romanization. Study the position of his vocal organs in producing the sounds. (A study of some system of Phonetics will be helpful in this line.) Give especial attention to difficult sounds. Your own ear and vocal organs will need to be trained to make the fine distinctions.

6. *Composition.*

Prepare each week a short exercise for criticism and correction by your examiner. The subjects for such exercises should be selected in consultation with the examiner.

7. *Romanization.*

Romanization should be used as an aid to expression in composition work. It cannot be depended upon for an accurate representation of the sounds.

8. *English Reading.*

Arthur Smith's Village Life.

*Section II. FIRST YEAR, SECOND HALF.*1. *Vernacular Lessons.*

Bryan's Analytical Primer, Book II, or Baller's Primer, Lessons 10-20.

2. *Christian Books.*

Selected Gospel stories continued. Be able to tell the stories and to read them.

(1) *A Visit to the Street.*

The Blind Beggar by the Wayside. Luke 18:35-43.

(2) *Going to Church.*

The Rejection at Nazareth. Luke 4:16-30.

(3) *A Visit in a Home.*

Jesus in the Bethany Home. Luke 10:38-42.

(4) *A Boat Trip.*

The Stilling of the Tempest. Luke 8:21-24.

(5) *A Meal on the Hillside.*

Feeding the Five Thousand. Luke 9:10-17.

3. *Character Study and Writing.*

Be able to recognize at least 1,000 characters in isolation. Learn to write and analyze 200 more characters, either continuing Bryan's list or taking them from Baller's A B C. Be able to write all the radicals in order or by number, giving name and meaning of each.

4. *Memorizing.*

(1) Prepare and learn a prayer in the vernacular.

(2) Ten verses of Scripture.

(3) Ten Chinese Proverbs.

(4) Ten useful phrases gathered from conversation with the Chinese.

N.B.—Memorizing should be only of what one continues to use. Phrases and proverbs alike are retained only if used.

5. *Conversation and Pronunciation.*

Same as first half-year.

6. *Composition.*

Same as first half-year.

7. *Romanization.*8. *English Reading.* Soothill's Religions of China.*Section III. SECOND YEAR, FIRST HALF.*1. *Vernacular Lessons.*

Bryan's Book III, or Baller's Primer, Lessons 20-30.

2. *Christian Books.*

Read Mark, Luke, and John.

3. *Character Study and Writing.*

Be able to recognize 1,500 characters in isolation. (They should all be contained in Kranz's alphabet.)

Review the 400 characters learned the first year and learn to write 100 more.

4. *Memorizing.*

(1) Names of the books of the Bible.

(2) Ten verses of Scripture

(3) Fifteen Chinese proverbs.

5. *Mandarin and Wenli Books*

The Sacred Edict 1,2,3. Read and translate.

Baller's Introduction to Wenli. Lessons 1-7.

6. *Conversation and Public Speaking.*

Spend some time each day, or as often as possible, in conversation with Chinese other than the regular Chinese teacher.

7. *Composition.*

Continue the weekly compositions. Hand in at the time of the examination a short theme on a subject to be chosen by the examiners.

8. *English Reading.* Pott's Sketch of Chinese History, or the historical chapters of William's Middle Kingdom.

Section IV. SECOND YEAR, SECOND HALF.

1. *Vernacular Lessons.*

Bryan's Book IV, or twenty of Mateer's Lessons or their equivalent selected by the examiners.

2. *Christian Books.*

Matthew, Acts, and Romans.

3. *Character Study and Writing.*

Be able to recognize 2,000 characters in isolation. (From Kranz's Alphabet, as before.)

Write characters up to 600.

4. *Memorizing.*

(1) The Ten Commandments.

(2) The Beatitudes.

(3) Fifteen Chinese Proverbs.

5. *Mandarin and Wenli Books.*

The Sacred Edict 4, 5, 6.

Baller's Wenli Lessons 8-15.

6. *Conversation and Public Speaking.*

Spend some time each day in conversation with other than the Chinese teacher. Preach a sermon suitable for chapel before the examiners, only brief notes being allowed. Ladies to make an address suitable for a women's meeting.

7. *Composition.*

Write at the time of the examination a short exposition on a theme chosen by the examiners.

8. *English Reading.*

Richard's Geography of China.

Section V. THIRD YEAR.

1. *Chinese Books.*

Chinese Three Character Classic.

The Fortunate Union; or The Three Kingdom Novel, Vols. 5-8. (Commercial Press, 12 vol. edition), or an equal amount taken from the "Supplementary Work" list.

Two Books of Mencius.

2. *Christian Books.*

Complete the New Testament and read 50 Psalms.

3. *Character study.*

Recognize another 1,000 characters (preferably from Kranz's alphabet). Learn to write the grass style for 100 common characters.

4. *Memory Work.*

Twenty quotations from the classics to be chosen with the advice of the examiners.

5. *English Reading.*

Bland and Backhouse "China under the Empress Dowager."

Supplementary Work. (Not required for examination.)

Hirth's "Chinese Documentary Style."

Cornaby's "Chinese Letter Writing for Missionaries."

Regular reading in the *Chinese Christian Intelligencer*.

Ten Books of the Analects (Soothill's "The Analects of Confucius" recommended).

The Great Learning or The Doctrine of the Mean.

Kwan Hwa Ts Nan.

Evan Morgan's "A Guide to Wenli Styles and Chinese Ideals."

Backhouse and Bland's "Annals and Memoirs of the Court of Peking."

Stories for Young People, and various biographies, by Zia Hong-lai.